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The Southwestern

Bringing students the latest happenings on campus

Vol. 96 No. 23

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

8 pages

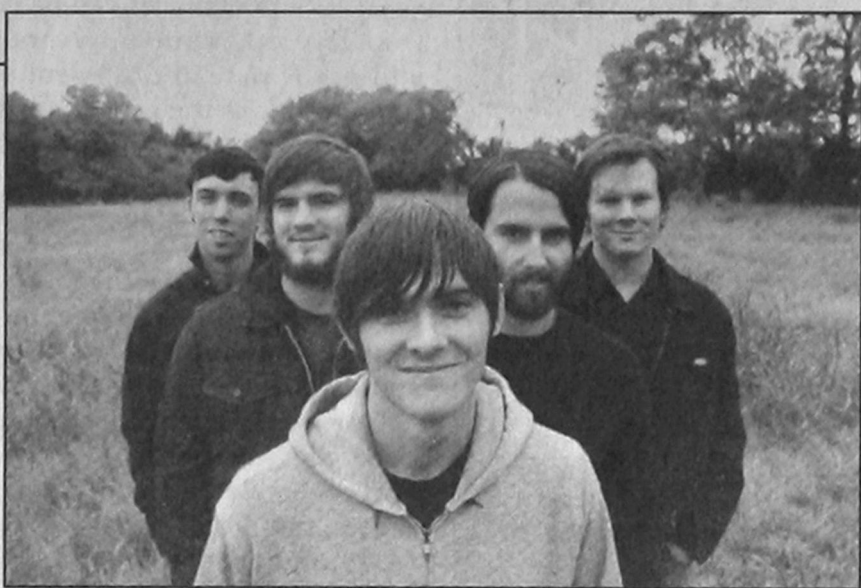
Area band picked to headline SWOSUPalooza

By JULIE FITE/
STAFF REPORTER

The sixth annual SWOSUPalooza kicks off Thursday, April 14 at 3 p.m.

"I wish the event could last two or three days," said event director Eric Johns. "There are just so many good bands this year, it was hard to choose who gets to play."

Tulchalk will kick



Subseven is a featured band at SWOSUPalooza.

off the seven-band line-up, with recording artist subseven to headline between 9:30-10 p.m. This will start off a nation wide tour for subseven and will serve as the release of their first full-length album "Free to Conquer" in stores now.

Also playing is The Fighting Potato Wedges, Hanging By a Thread, Jackson After the Accident, Welcome

the Silence and the winner of 94.7 the Buzz March Bandness, respectively.

Free hotdogs and drinks will be provided, along with frisbees and beach balls. Donations from Mazzios, Pizza Hut, and Taco Mayo are still in the works.

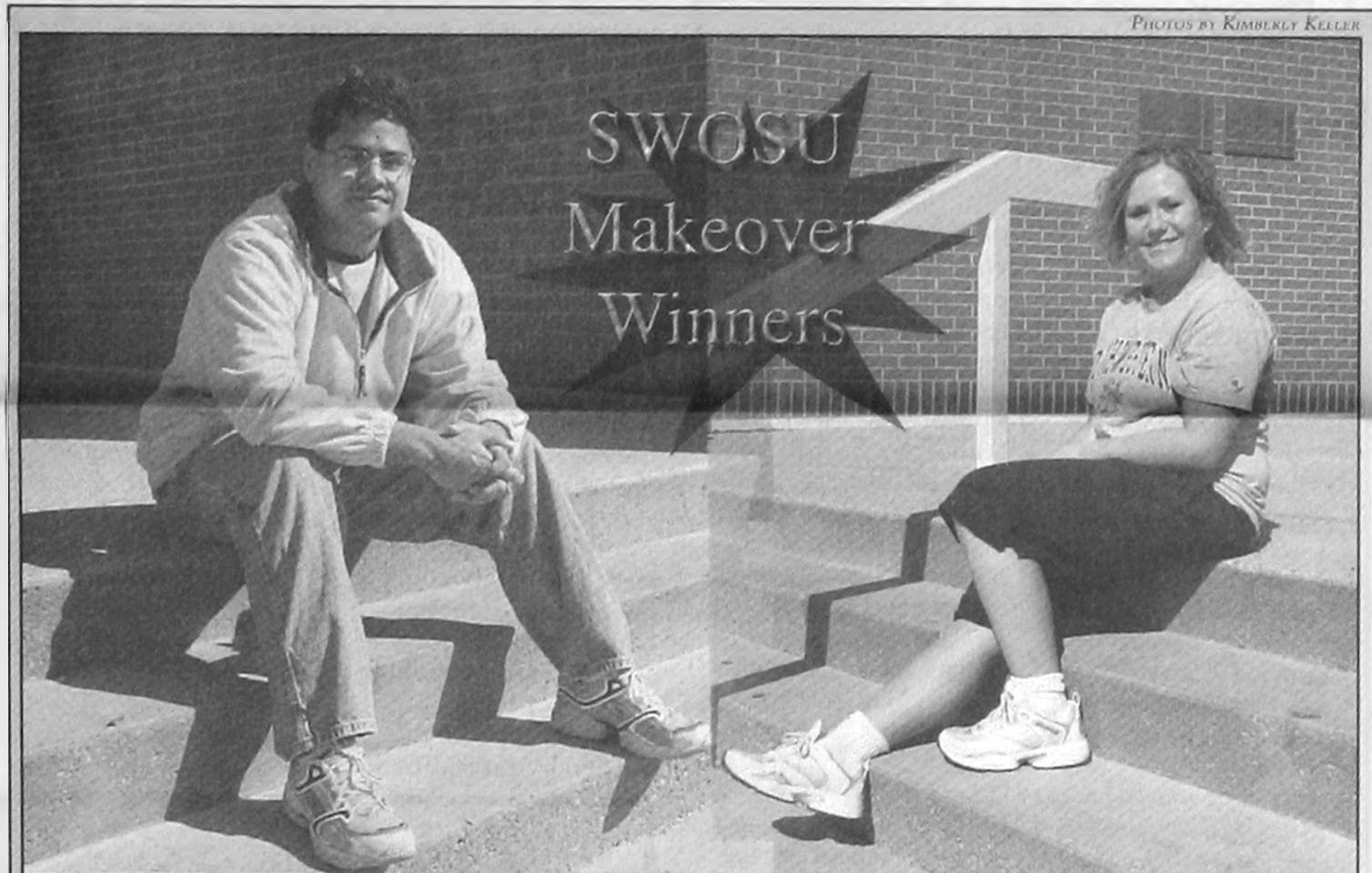
Many on-campus organizations will be a part of this year's event. The Baptist Collegiate Ministry will have a lemonade stand, and

Collegiate Activities Board will sell cotton candy and funnel cakes.

Any organization can be a part of this event for free by contacting the Student Government Association.

The event is free and open to the public. Band merchandise and Palooza t-shirts will be sold at the event as well.

For more information and links to the bands, visit www.swosupalooza.com.



David Ramirez and Danielle Banpose to show off their new make-overs.

Hines and BSA come out big winners at Bulldog Blitz

Southwestern Oklahoma State University student Lyndsey Hines of Sulphur and the Black Student Association Step Team were the top winners at the SWOSU Bulldog Blitz talent show held March 29 on the Weatherford campus.

Hines won the individual competition with her vocal number, while the BSA Step Team stepped their way to the top in the organizational competition. Each won \$500 for winning first place.

Other top finishers in the individual competition were second place winner James Pappe of Yukon and third place winner Vania Addo of Oklahoma City (Westmoore). Both were vocalists. Pappe won \$350 and Addo won \$200.

In the organization competition, finishing second was the SWOSU Cheerleaders and winning third place was the Phi Mu Alpha band, which performed an original number. The SWOSU Cheerleaders won \$350 and the Phi Mu Alpha band won \$200.

Also at the Bulldog Blitz, David Ramirez of Altus won the makeover contest. Earlier this semester, the Collegiate Activities Board sponsored the makeover contest featuring students Danielle Van of Bartlesville and Ramirez. They made their debuts at the Bulldog Blitz and were judged by the audience.

The Collegiate Activities Board sponsored the Bulldog Blitz for the third straight year.

PHOTOS BY KIMBERLY KELLER

PHOTO BY KIMBERLY KELLER



Students can expect little change left over from tuition.

Tuition rise set for Fall 2005 semester

By ANDREA FLIC/
STAFF REPORTER

Every school year, students are worried of tuition hikes, especially when tuition is scheduled to rise another 3 to 5 percent for the Fall 2005 semester.

According to the Southwestern Fact Book, tuition has roughly doubled for undergraduate studies over the past 12 years.

Tuition in the 1993-1994 school year was approximately \$46 per credit hour. The cost of tuition this year is \$100 per credit hour.

However, Southwestern is quite a bit more affordable than other institutions, charging approximately 20 percent less than surrounding states.

Higher education has

not been getting adequate appropriations at the state level. This is one vital reason for the increase in the price of tuition at Southwestern.

"The Legislature is not giving adequate assistance to hold tuition to the present price," said Tom Fagan, vice president for administration.

If the Legislature would increase the appropriations base, tuition increase could be held at 4 percent or less. Because of tuition increase and the decrease in assistance from the Legislature, Southwestern has increased the yearly scholarship budget to assist students in the cost of tuition.

Tuition on page 2

Gas prices overheating students' wallets

By BIGYAN KOIRALA/
STAFF REPORTER

It's finally time for consumers to think about a change in their driving and their choice of car. Since gas prices have risen so high, there isn't any other alternative.

A month ago, the average regular gas price was \$1.912 and this week it is \$2.10. Premium gas prices are even higher and last month alone increased from \$2.10 to \$2.36. A barrel of crude oil now costs more than \$36.

"Too high! The new prices are too much," said

Bhaskar Basnet, who drives to work and college every day.

There are thousands of consumers like Basnet who are dissatisfied that they pay 31 percent of the gas prices on state and federal taxes alone. The other 69 percent goes for crude oil costs, processing, marketing and distribution.

The United States government has said that "gas prices have risen because of tight supplies of crude oil by the OPEC nations, which supplies 40 percent of global oil alone."

Gas prices are different

in various parts of the United States, as low as \$1.79 in Houston, Texas, and as high as \$2.19 in San Francisco, Calif.

Gas expenses will vary depending on the vehicle. SUV and pick-up owners have had more expenses in their daily gasoline charges than consumers with smaller vehicles. A brand new Toyota Prius runs at 51 miles per gallon while a Hummer runs at eight to fourteen miles per gallon.

There are a few tips to reduce gas costs regardless of the type of car you drive.

One way to reduce your gas expenses is to get a gas rebate credit card such as the one offered by Discover, which offers a ten percent cash rebate on all gas purchases.

You can also use cheaper brands of oils. Most people believe premium brand oil is better, which is not true. Also, check your tire pressures. Tires that are not fully inflated help consume ten percent more fuel. Finally, avoid sudden acceleration, which also helps in keeping your gas cost low.



News



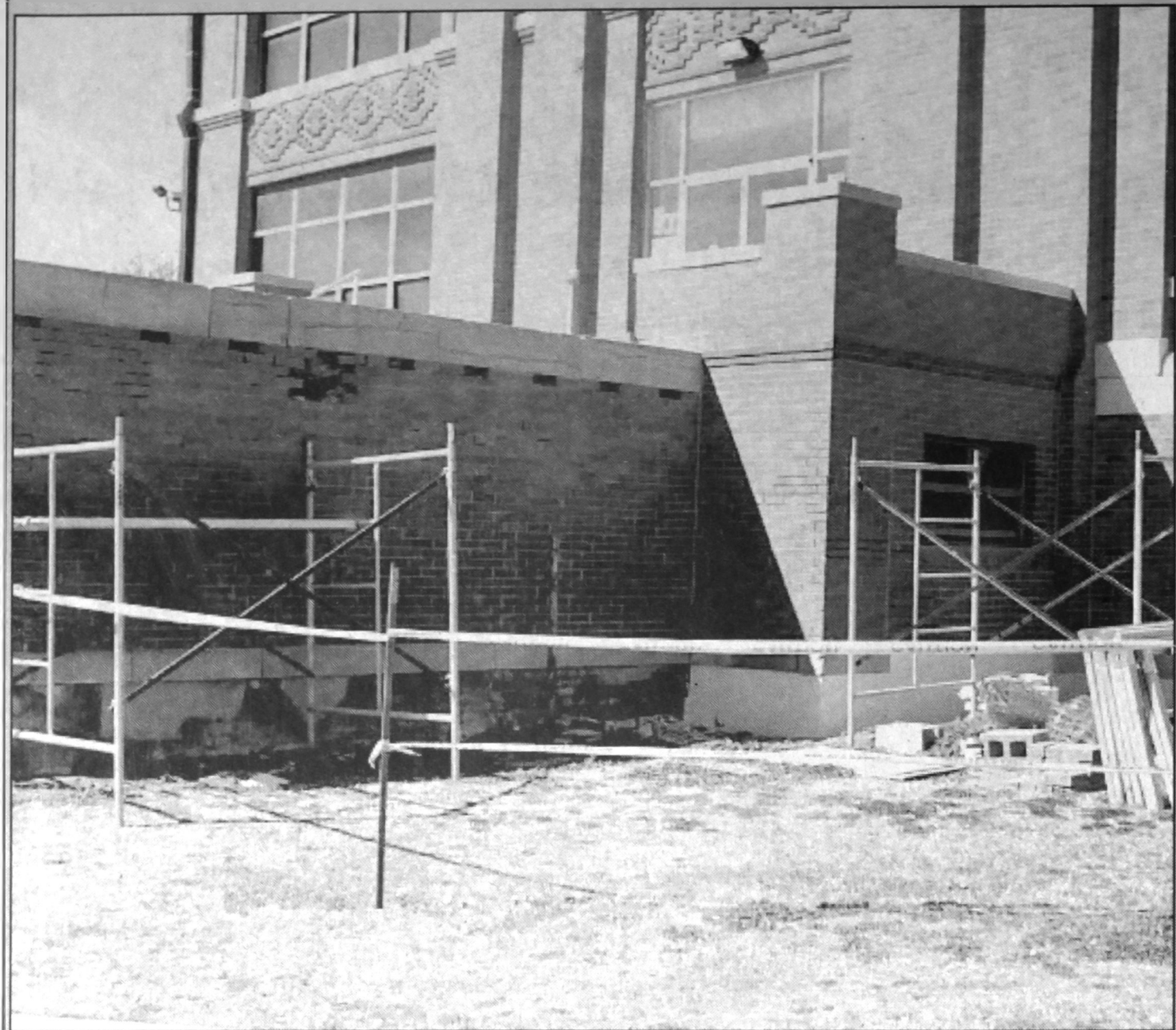
Sports



April 6, 2005

Renovations

PROTO BY KIMBERLY KELLER



The Old Science Building's historical features are in the process of being repaired.

Many music events planned

Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Department of Music has a wide variety of concerts planned for the remainder of the spring semester on the Weatherford campus.

The first concert starts Wednesday, April 6, at 3 p.m. with Guitarama in Room 101 of the Music Building. Students will perform a wide variety of classic guitar music. Admission is free, and the public is invited.

Later that evening on April 6, there will be a junior recital at 7 p.m. in Room 101 of the Music Building featuring Tim Martin and Chris Roland, tuba with Dr. Terrv Segress, piano. Both Martin and Roland are students of Segress.

On Friday, April 8, a senior recital featuring Summer Rapson, saxophone, will be held at 7 p.m. in Room 101 of the Music Building. Rapson, a student of William Hull, will be assisted by Joy Unruh, piano.

Two more senior recitals are planned on Saturday and Sunday, April 9-10. On

Saturday, vocalist Jonathan Flynn will perform at 3 p.m. in Room 101 of the Music Building. Flynn, a student of Joyce Adams Curtis, will be assisted by Curtis, piano.

Then on Sunday, vocalist Lyndsey Deck will perform a senior recital at 3 p.m. in Room 101 of the Music Building. Deck, a vocal student of Charles Klingman, will be assisted by Klingman on piano.

The Jazz Ensembles "A" and "B" will perform on Wednesday, April 13, at 7 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center. Jazz Ensemble "B" is conducted by Nathan Rapson, while Jazz Ensemble "A" is conducted by Segress.

On the next night, Thursday, April 14, the Percussion Ensemble will be featured in concert at 7 p.m. in Room 101 of the Music Building. The concert will be directed by David Bessinger.

The SWOSU Music Department will host the USAF Shades of Blue concert on Monday, April 18, at 7 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center

Auditorium.

Another senior recital featuring Jamie Ezersky, clarinet, will be held on Tuesday, April 19, at 7 p.m. in Room 101 of the Music Building. Assisting Ezersky will be Dr. Linda Owen of Oklahoma City, piano. Ezersky is a student of Hull.

Later that evening at 8:15 p.m. in Music 101 will be a senior recital on composition. All of the students performing their various original compositions are from the studio of Dr. Dennis Widen.

Also on Tuesday, April 19, will be an 8:15 p.m. concert by the Southwestern Symphony Orchestra. The performance will be held in the Fine Arts Center Auditorium. The Orchestra is conducted by Dr. Robert Chambers. The Symphonic/Community Band will perform on Thursday, April 21, at 7 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center. The Symphonic/Community Band is conducted by Dr. James South.

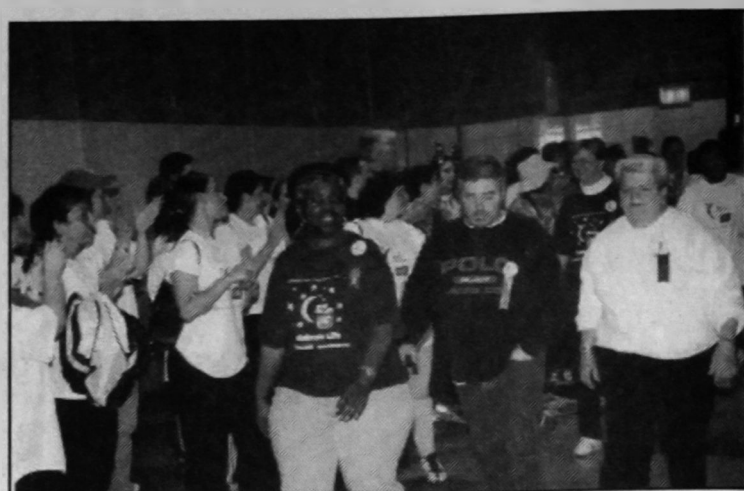
Another concert will be

Friday, April 22, when the Wind Ensemble performs at 7 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center Auditorium. The Wind Ensemble is conducted by Dr. James South.

A senior recital featuring Michael Stevens and his compositions will be held Saturday, April 23, at 6 p.m. in Room 101 of the Music Building. Stevens is a student of Dr. Dennis Widen.

The last concert of the spring semester will be on Sunday, April 24, at 3 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center lobby where a SWOSU choral concert will be held. The choral groups performing consist of the Southwestern Men's Chorus, conducted by Jonathan Stewart; the Southwestern Women's Chorus, conducted by Joyce Adams Curtis; the Southwestern Chamber Choir, conducted by Jonathan Stewart; and the Southwestern Singers, conducted by Charles Klingman.

All of the above concerts are free and the public is cordially invited to attend.



Relay for Life helps fight cancer

By BRIAN HILL/
News Editor

Relay For Life invites everyone to help support this year's Relay For Life events at the Weatherford High School gym at 6 p.m. this Friday.

Relay For Life has had a strong theme over the years, it's that cancer can be conquered. Teams from the community, university and high school will participate in this event of friendship and celebration, as the cancer survivors and participants honor those still fighting the disease and those touched by it.

The event will start with survivors of cancer being introduced and then walk, run or wheelchair the opening lap together.

"You do not need a team to participate, anyone can just show up and walk", said Kristi McDaniel sponsor for the Custer County Relay For Life.

During the evening, a luminary will occur with glow sticks being used to outline the walkway. This walk, also, helps to represent those lost to cancer and honoring those who have survived.

Throughout the event, fund-raising will be going on to benefit Relay For Life. The teams fund-raising and Relay For Life will provide various entertainments. Also, a dinner will be served for \$3 dollars a plate, beginning at 6 p.m and ending 9 p.m. Friday.

Tuition from page 1

"We believe in 'quality at a fair cost,'" Fagan said.

However, the college doesn't have "the ability to increase financial aid at the same rate" as the increase of tuition and the cost of running the university. Also, Fagen stated that students shouldn't expect the state to entirely cover the burden of higher education. The state should help by making the cost of higher education less of a burden by providing

more funds going to institutions.

There will be two Student Tuition Hearings held in April. This will be a question and answer session where students can ask any questions regarding tuition.

The first hearing is scheduled for April 13 at 3 p.m. in Stafford 201. The second will follow in the next couple of weeks.



THE SOUTHWESTERN STAFF

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Copy Editor..... Michael Bergin
News Editor Brian Hill
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Sports Editors Royce Young
and Andy Tschetter
Advertising Manager Brandi Nabors
Advertising Representative Chris Keim
Photographers..... Kimberly Keller,
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Writing Staff..... Bryan Andrews, Emily Avera, James Bryen, Michelle Bush, Carrie Carney, Robyn Chrismon, Julie Fite, Andrea Fleig, Lindsey Grigg, Christopher Keim, Bigyan Koirala, Sharmina Manadhar, Nadalin Mendoza, Lauren Pritchard, Tara Sanders, Dana Smith, Joshua Trent, Karen Trent

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THE SOUTHWESTERN is the student newspaper of Southwestern Oklahoma State University. It is published every Wednesday during the fall and spring semesters, except during holidays and finals week. Students in the editing class serve as section editors. The editorial board meets every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. in the journalism lab, Campbell 211.

THE SOUTHWESTERN encourages comments from the student body, faculty, and administration in the form of letters to the editor. All letters must include a name for consideration; however, the name may be withheld upon request. Letters should be sent to: The Southwestern, 100 Campus Drive, SWOSU, Weatherford, OK, 73096; 774-3065.

The opinions expressed within signed editorials are the opinions of the writers; the opinions expressed in unsigned, boxed editorials are the opinion of the staff. Neither is necessarily the opinion of the university administration, staff or faculty.

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Dawg Days preparations

By JOSH TRENT/
STAFF REPORTER

Remember when you were a freshman? Remember how nervous you were about making new friends, getting to class on time and keeping grades up?

If you were a freshmen at Southwestern then you should remember a week of activities that made easing into college life a little easier. It was called Dawg Days.

During the next few weeks, new faces will begin showing up on Southwestern's campus. Just like previous freshmen, they will be pre-enrolling and going to orientations. They will be looking like a deer caught in the headlights.

Dawg Days are Southwestern's answer for the struggling new students who are making the shift from one home to another. Every year hundreds of new freshman, transfer students, and upper classmen participate in the events that include everything from dances and volleyball to inflated sumo-wrestling.

Dean of Students Paulette Woods is responsible for organizing and overseeing the event.



Freshmen taking a break on the lawn after participating in Dawg Days.

Woods and 35 Southwestern orientation leaders select the activities, host the events and teach freshmen orientation classes.

"Dawg Days is an opportunity for all students in the first week of class to participate in nightly activities," said Woods, "for freshmen it is an opportunity to meet other students, and for upper classmen, it is an opportunity to see old friends."

Also, Woods said that Dawg Days are set up to give comfort to new students and to let them

know that they are not alone.

"It's a chance for them to get out of their dorm or apartment and become engaged in social activities," she added.

Freshmen often get homesick, depressed and discouraged about their decision to come to college. Current students should offer encouragement to new faces on campus.

The other part of Dawg Days is the organizational fair sponsored by the Student Government Association. It is a chance for incoming students to

see all the different clubs and organizations that Southwestern has to offer.

Also, it's a chance for students to promote those organizations that aren't plugged by professors, especially the ones that don't belong to a particular department. Invitations to the fair should be arriving soon, but if the organization you're a part of doesn't receive one, contact the Student Government Association.

For ideas or questions concerning Dawg Days contact Dr. Paulette Woods at 774-3767.

Alcohol consumption prompts concern for Southwestern students

By ROBYN CHRISMON/
STAFF REPORTER

Over the last year, there have been several stories of college students and binge drinking resulting in death. A tragedy of this nature could also occur at Southwestern.

According to *Updates on Contemporary Issues* concerning Southwestern, "the abuse of alcohol and other drugs is an issue of concern in the University."

Alcohol is the most widely used and abused drug across Southwestern's campus and is a major concern. Alcohol abuse

contributes to many problems including sexual and other assaults, particularly date rape.

Other problems such as conflicts, disturbances, injuries, vandalism, academic problems and personal pain often occur.

Students on campus should think twice before indulging. Southwestern's policy on alcohol states, "the consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages or illegal narcotics in any form on the campus, in the university housing, or at any affair on the campus sponsored by or for a student organization is forbidden."

SWOSU's Humphrey wins third in research competition

Southwestern Oklahoma State University student Forrest Humphrey of Rocky won third place and a \$250 cash prize at the recent Student Research Day competition held at the State Capitol in Oklahoma City.

Humphrey showcased his research on retinal modeling.

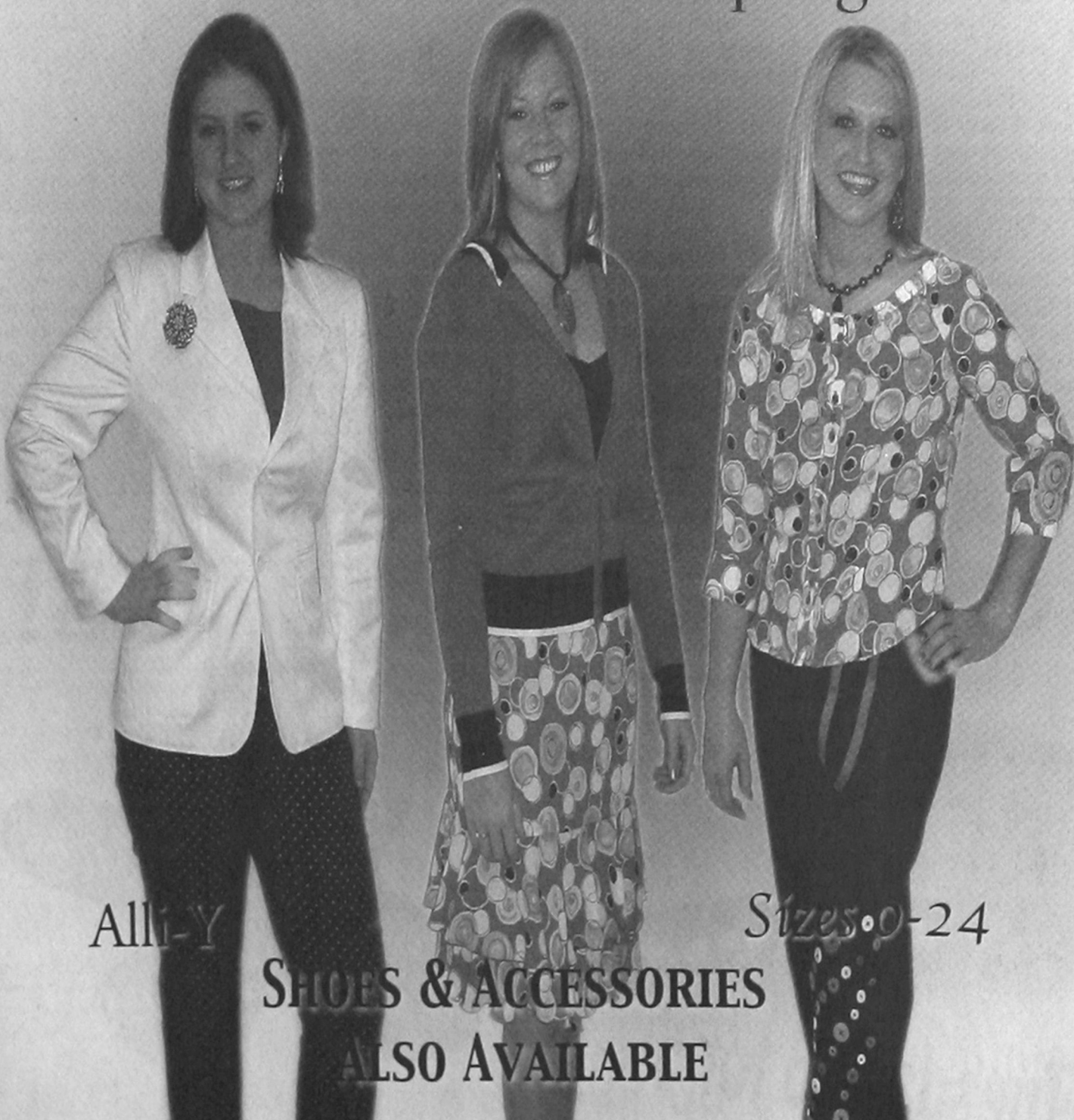
College students from across the state participated in the event that highlights outstanding undergraduate research being conducted at Oklahoma's colleges and universities in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the Oklahoma Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), <http://www.okeyscores.org/>, and the National Science Foundation annually sponsor Research Day. Walker Companies of Oklahoma City served as co-sponsor for this year's event.

Organizers invited Oklahoma colleges and universities to nominate outstanding research projects conducted by undergraduate students. Eighteen students, nominated by 12 institutions, received a \$250 stipend from Oklahoma EPSCoR to prepare and present their scientific research posters at the State Capitol. The event is an effort to inform the Legislature and the general public about the high-quality research taking place in Oklahoma's institutions of higher education.

Many students were visited by their districts' state representatives. Additionally, students' posters were competitively judged by an independent panel who selected the top four research projects. First place winner was Tracy Washington of the University of Oklahoma, second place winner was Brian McWilliams of Oklahoma State University. The fourth place winner was Kendra Byrd of the University of Central Oklahoma.

The Closet

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CONTINUING STUDENT TUITION WAIVER

Applications are due by May 1, 2005 for Oklahoma residents interested in applying for this scholarship. Students who have earned at least 24 credit hours at SWOSU during the Fall 2004 and Spring 2005 semesters are encouraged to apply. Waivers of varying amounts up to 12 credit hours free tuition (no fees) per term will be awarded. Selection is academically competitive.

Information and applications for these and other scholarships are available in the Office of Student Financial Services, Stafford Building, and Room 224.

Comments from the staff

Tolerance a Virtue?

Recent replies to sports editor Andy Tschetter's March 9 editorial about homosexuality in the dorms have really made my mind churn. These letters, submitted by champions of a relatively new cultural movement called "tolerance," seem to be rather "intolerant" of Andy's opinion.

What is tolerance, anyway? Several years back, I was at a youth conference where a speaker by the name of Vody Bauchum presented a definition of tolerance. He basically called this pitiful state of mind "the virtue of a man without conviction."

I couldn't agree more. If we must, as a unified group, tolerate everything and everyone in order to avoid being dubbed a "homophobe," "redneck," or "old fashioned," then we are at great risk of losing personal conviction.

I, for one, am not interested in this "imagine no religion, nothing to die for" proposition that "tolerance" asks me to consider. Under this ridiculous concept of "tolerance," there is surely

no room for personal conviction.

You see, our world operates on a double standard. It pitches slogans like "Stand up for yourself and what you believe in," "Take a stand for what's right," and "Be your own person," while at the same time shunning those who actually do it. It seems to me that Tschetter simply took an active, harmless stand for what he believes is right. Regardless of the tact he used or didn't use in taking his stand, he still took a stand. Should he not do so?

What if Tschetter simply kept quiet and "tolerated" what he thinks is wrong. For that matter, what if Abraham Lincoln or Martin Luther King Jr. simply "tolerated" what they felt was socially unjust? What if George W. Bush tolerated acts of terrorism and tyranny, simply taking a back seat to the idea that he should "tolerate" the way certain radicals choose to play out their delusions of grandeur? What if he didn't say to the nation on March 17, 2003 that, "Peaceful efforts to disarm Iraq have failed again and again because we are not dealing with peaceful men," and instead chose to be lax? Though he's taken some flack for his proactive attempts to rid the world of terrorism, I have great respect for him. Why? Because he did not embrace a life without conviction under the alias of "tolerance." He chose to be a real man, and the sad thing is that if he had chosen not to be, the very people who criticize him now for being too proud would criticize him for being too weak. We'll save that for another editorial, though. Still, does

nobody see this double standard?

Andy Tschetter is told that he must tolerate homosexuals, even though he disagrees with the lifestyle, but he's also told that innocently praying in school will not be tolerated. Backwards? Andy might as well be told something like this:

"Andy, you cannot pray for your friend's family, country, or anyone or anything else for that matter, while you're at school, even though it can do no harm to anyone. We will not 'tolerate' it. However, you better darn well 'tolerate' all the lifestyles that you disagree with, even homosexuality and other lifestyles (including heterosexual promiscuity) that you think are immoral, even though they can bring about physical disease, emotional pain, and eventual death."

None of this editorial is intended to promote hatred, nor is it intended to agree with Tschetter's proposition to remove homosexuals from the dorms. I do not hate homosexuals or other people different from me for that matter. I also don't think we should use our beliefs as an excuse to be cruel to others. This editorial is, however, intended to point out the risk of losing our conviction, and I do foresee some dangerous implications if we choose to do so by embracing "tolerance."

I am a young man who, as of May 7, will be entering into the "real world," and I aim to do so with conviction. Nobody will tell me what I must warmly accept. I simply will not tolerate it.

--Michael Bergin

Comments from the staff

April Fools Day

April Fools Day allows students to play pranks on each other.

"One of the biggest April Fools Day pranks I experienced was when I parked my car at Stewart Hall, my roommates decided to get my car while I was in class," said Editor Brandon Berry.

"Someone was pranked their cars during the middle of the night and thought it was me. While they were putting ketchup and mustard on my car, they said the campus police drove by and waved.

"One of my roommates told me they didn't have to worry about anything at that point.

"Then, the campus police came back saying as long as my car was on campus, my roommates shouldn't be putting ketchup and mustard on my car.

"The campus police told my roommates to clean it up. The only way I knew about it was a little bit of yellow and red on my car as well as my roommates telling me they left something for me followed by their story.

"I don't remember too many extremely well executed April fools jokes, probably because our best pranks were always done within the year," said Copy Editor Michael Bergin.

"The only real April fools joke I remember when growing up was when some identical twins who were in separate classes decided to trick their teachers by switching classes for the morning. They look so much alike, they could get away with things like that."

"April fools is a fun day where people can play jokes on one another without the worries of anyone being mad," said Photographer Kimberly Keller

"The last April fools joke played on me was my professor, Max White, said we were going to have a test, but we didn't. Ha, ha, very funny, Professor White."

"I love April fools! I always love a practical joke," said sports editor Royce Young.

"Sports Illustrated ran an article 20 years ago about Sidd Fiddnch pitching with boots on, one boot at a time. He had really long arms and was going to play for New York Mets.

"He threw underhanded 158 miles per hour. He resurfaced when the Australian Olympics came about and an obscure country wanted him to throw the javelin for them.

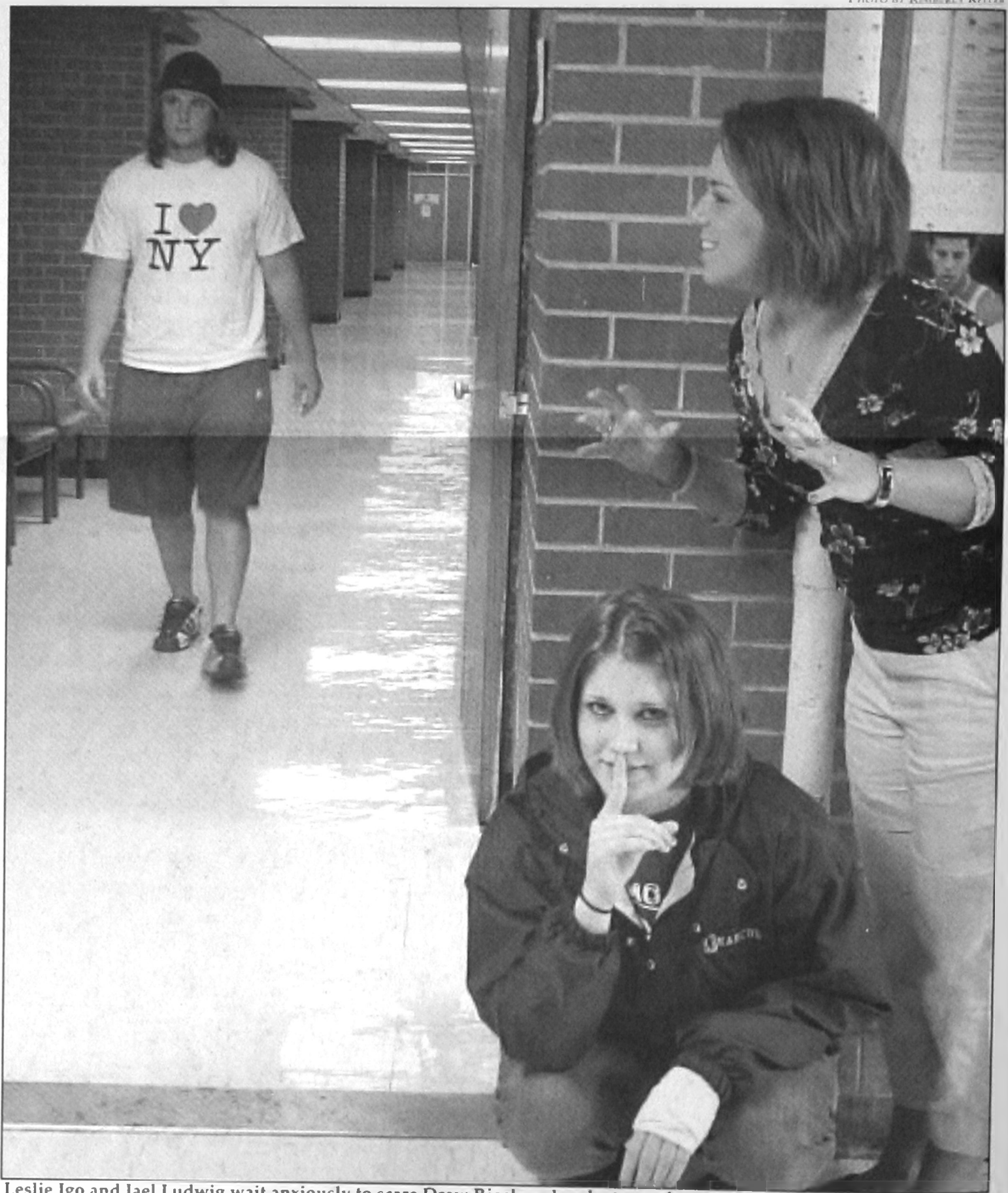
"Well, anyway, what happened is, I believed both stories finding out they were April fools jokes."

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Saturday, April 16, 2005
8 A.M. - 2 P.M.

At Weatherford High School
Track and Field
1500 N. Washington

Sign Up On The SCEC
Board In The
Education Building
By Edu 120.



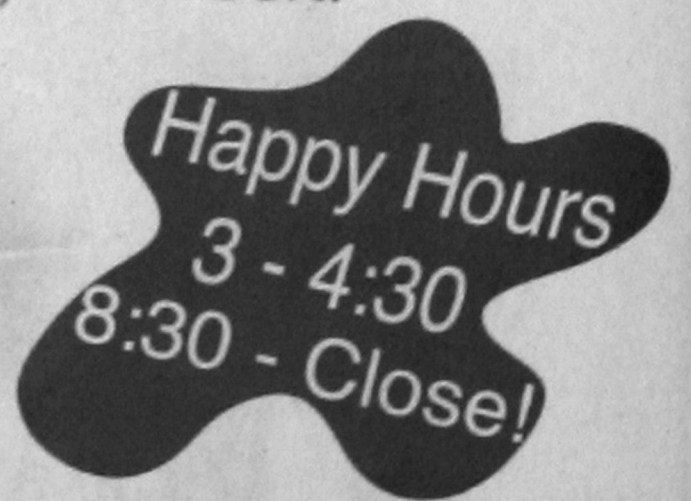
Leslie Igo and Jael Ludwig wait anxiously to scare Drew Rigsby when he turns the corner.

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Sports

SWOSU rodeo set for three-day run Thursday

WEATHERFORD – Some of the nation's top collegiate rodeo performers will be in town this week as the 33rd Annual Southwestern Oklahoma State University rodeo begins its three-day run Thursday at Don Mitchell Arena. The rodeo is a sanctioned event of the Central Plains Region of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association.

A total of four performances are scheduled — Thursday and Friday at 7:30 p.m. and two on Saturday at 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. The top 10 in each event will return for the championship go-round on Saturday night.

The SWOSU rodeo draws nearly 500 cowboys and cowgirls that compete for a wide range of prizes that include money, buckles, saddles and an opportunity to qualify for the 2005 College National Finals Rodeo. Competition will be waged in nine different events that include team roping, saddle bronc, steer wrestling, breakaway roping, goat tying, barrel racing, saddle bronc riding, bareback riding and bull riding.

SWOSU's 27-member rodeo team along with 22 different colleges from the Central Plains region will be represented at the event. Women's regional leader Southeastern Oklahoma State and men's leader Oklahoma Panhandle

State are considered the favorites this year.

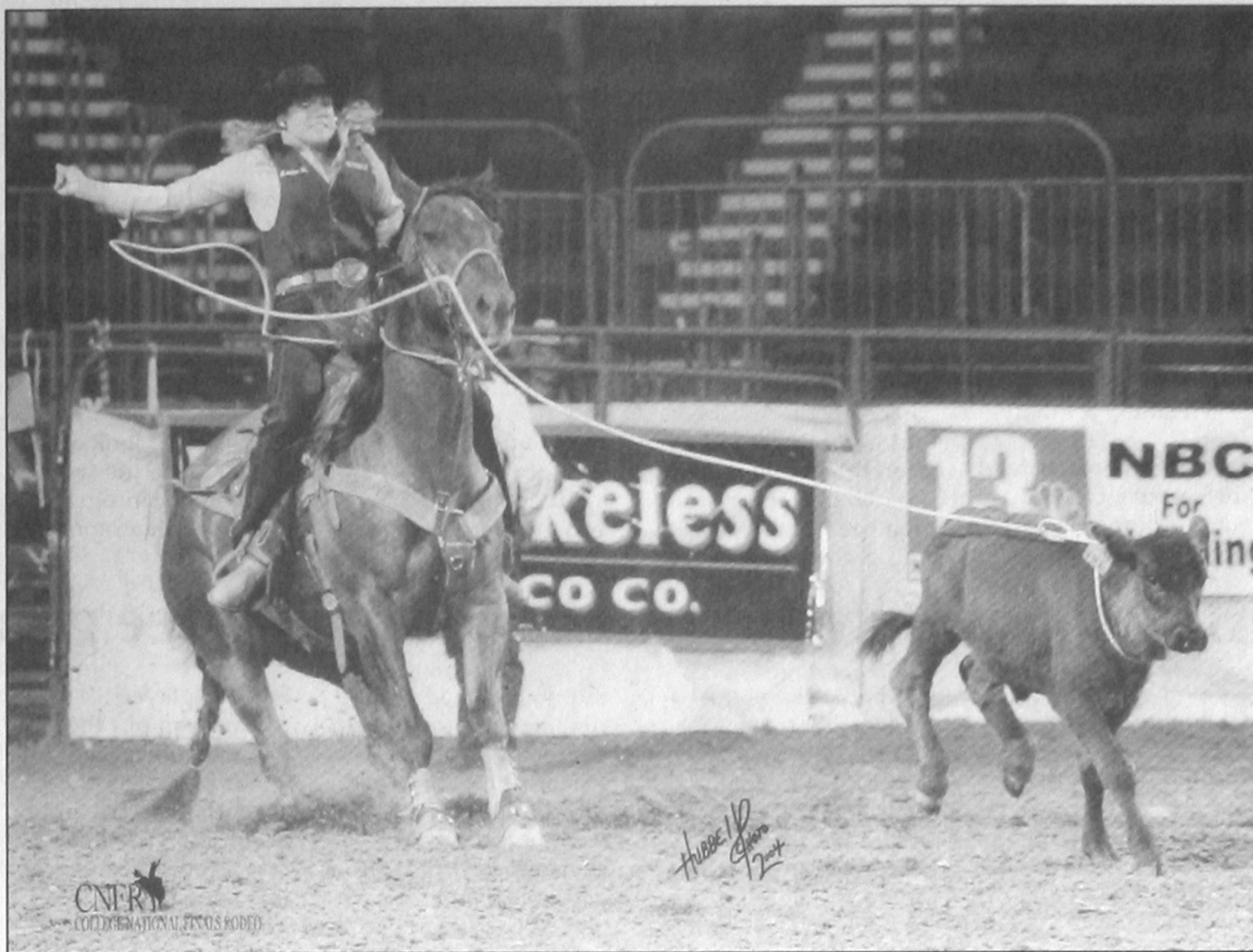
Members of the rodeo team practice all school year and travel to multiple competitions during the season. This semester, the team has participated in rodeos at Kansas State, Garden City, Fort Scott and OPSU. The SWOSU rodeo team will conclude its regular season later this month with rodeos at Southeastern Oklahoma State University and Fort Hays State University.

Contractor Beutler and Son Rodeo Company is scheduled to bring in the bucking stock of 30 bulls and 40 bucking horses. Other stock (75 steers and 70 calves) will be provided by Lon Chaney and Doug Sears.

Weatherford's own Jim Pugh will be making a return appearance as the popular public address announcer along with veteran rodeo caller Clem McSpadden of Chelsea. McSpadden's knowledge of the sport and his recall of the many contestants he has introduced through the years makes his dialogue among the most interesting and informative of any announcer today.

Bullfighters are Aaron Loewe of Scylar, Neb. And Sam Gress of Hutchison, Kan.

Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students at the gate. SWOSU students are admitted free with ID.



Southwestern Rodeo Team

Aaron Allen	Marshalltown, Iowa	SW, TR
Matt Baker	Butler	CR, SW
Colt Channey	Marietta	TR
Brad Davis	Big Bear City, CA	BR
Jarrod Dilka	Galeton, Colo.	BR
Jace Forman	Elk City	CR
Dusty Gracia	Leedey	BB, SB, BR
Tanner Houston	Tucson, Ariz.	CR, SW, TR
Rusty Kreizenbeck	Arapaho	SW
Orin Melvin	Tryon, Neb.	SW, TR
Bandy Murphy	Punta Gorda, FL	BB, SB, BR
Seth Murphy	Killdeer, N.D.	CR, SW, TR
Racey Padilla	Devol	TR
Tanner Rust	Miami	CR
Tony Sauter	Blanchard	CR, SW, TR
Steven Smith	Adrian, Mo.	BB
Bo Warren	Sentinel	TR

Martha Beagley	Colbert	BA, GT, BR
Julie Dawson	Arnett	BA, GT, BR
Sarah Ellingson	Kellyville	BA, GT, BR
Jenna Hays	Weatherford	BA, GT, BR
Ashlilen Huston	Tucson, Ariz.	BA, GT, BR
Eryn Kuntz	Center City, Minn.	GA, GT
Johnna Snow	Heber Springs, Ark.	BA
Nicki Walker	Mannford	BA, BR
Emmi Williams	Huntsville, Utah	BR
Whitney Wright	Punta Gorda, Fla.	BA, GT, BR

KEY: SW – Steer Wrestling; TR – Team Roping; CR – Calf Roping; BR – Bareback Riding; SB – Saddle Bronc; BR – Bull Riding

BA – Breakaway Roping; GT – Goat Tying; BR – Barrel Racing

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April 6, 2005

Is it a sport or not a sport? *Cheerleading and Pompon/dance*

By LAUREN PRITCHARD/
STAFF REPORTER

Cheerleaders: pompons, bloomers, and short skirts; could this really be considered a sport? Much controversy surrounds this topic.

According to ESPN.com, the NCAA does not recognize cheerleading as a sport, even though schools such as Maryland have taken the steps to make cheerleading a varsity sport.

High schools around the country compete in competitions, as well as

many universities. ESPN runs the Universal Cheerleaders Association college competitions in the spring. Many would argue that if ESPN runs it, it might as well be a sport. What makes cheerleading any different from basketball or football? Is it the uniforms?

Granted, the skirts make it difficult to take cheerleading seriously, but if you have ever seen the gymnastics involved in the stunts that these men and

women perform in their programs, on the sidelines, or during the half-time shows you would probably think differently about calling cheerleading just a way to pump up the audience and bring up school

spirit.

Football players wear spandex pants, and baseball players also wear tight-fitting uniforms. If this is an argument against cheerleading than they should look at all the sports programs.

USA Today reporter



Erik Brady says, "An estimated half-million cheerleaders attend cheer camp each summer. The University of Kentucky awards full in-state tuition scholarships." Many other colleges award cheerleaders with scholarships also.

The debate surrounds whether or not cheerleaders are in competitions, or if they are just on the sidelines driving the crowd to root harder for their team.

According to TalkingWorld.com, who addresses this topic with

a message board, many feel that cheerleading is just another popularity contest within the schools. But this is criticized by people who attend the competitions, or the cheerleaders who put in as many or more hours than the football or basketball teams that they root for.

It seems that this issue will be an ongoing debate because of all the different opinions that surround it. When it comes to handing out scholarships, most schools are focused on the major sports, such as football or basketball.

Bulldogs get swept by Cameron in three game series, drop to 9-24

Southwestern Oklahoma State's wait for its first Lone Star Conference North division win grew longer as Cameron swept three games from the Bulldogs in a weekend series completed Sunday in Weatherford. Cameron won Saturday's doubleheader by scores of 11-7 and 19-10 and made it three-for-three with a 18-15 single-game win Sunday.

The Bulldogs, losers of 14 of their last 15 games, saw their season record dip to 9-24 overall and 0-5 in LSC North play. Cameron improved to 19-11 and 5-0 in league play. SWOSU will next play at home Wednesday when it hosts East Central in a doubleheader beginning at 2 p.m.

In Saturday's first-game, SWOSU stayed on CU's heels after a fifth inning in which the

Bulldogs plated five runs to close to within one run at 6-5. Matt Machinski had a two-RBI double while teammates Garion Davenport, Erik Horton and Wes Bamburg each had run-scoring singles.

SWOSU scored twice in the sixth on a pair of odd plays to. Landon Thompson and Mark Cole each lofted fly balls only to see the Aggie outfielder lose it in the sun allowing for triples

by both players.

Cameron put the game out of reach with a pair of runs in the seventh. Starter Landon Scales (2-5) took the loss after allowing nine hits and six runs in 4.1 innings.

In the second game Saturday, SWOSU watched a 10-6 lead evaporate in the late innings as Cameron scored 13 unanswered runs enroute to a 19-10 win.

Tanner Dewald had two RBI hits in both the first and fourth innings to provide the early offensive spark for the Bulldogs. SWOSU also was helped by six errors committed by Aggie fielders in the game's first four innings.

Cameron took the lead for good with a six-run fifth inning off SWOSU starter and loser Mike Houska (1-4) who gave up 10 hits, nine runs in four and

two-thirds innings.

In Sunday's contest, Cameron jumped out to an 11-0 lead after one and one-half inning of play chasing starter Landon Harms (0-3) from the hill.

SWOSU scrambled back to trail 14-10 after five innings before CU built its lead out to 18-10.

The Bulldogs did save one offensive firework for the final inning as Machinski blasted a bases-loaded grand slam to provide the game's final margin at 18-14.

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Congress holds steroid hearing

By Bryan Andrews/
Staff Reporter

Major league baseball has changed dramatically because of the recent steroid scandal. There has been so much talk around baseball right now and has been a lot of controversy surrounding this issue.

Congress has taken control to try and stop all the players using steroids. Some of the biggest names in baseball were at the hearing two weeks ago.

The MLB really has not said anything on how they are going to punish players, but they need to do some harsher punishments was one of conclusions the committee that hear the case declared..

Curt Schilling a pitcher for the Boston Red Sox

gave a dramatic speech explaining the use of illegal drugs.

Mark McGwire, who broke Roger Maris home run record in 1998, was among a panel of current and former all-stars who appeared before the house government reform to discuss the use of steroids in the majors.

Mark McGwire repeatedly said, "I'm not going to go into the past or talk about my past. I'm here to make a positive influence on this."

He also refused to address allegations of steroid use leveled against him and other ball players by his one-time Oakland A's teammate Jose Canseco, the author of a recent

tell-all book on the issue, and McGwire said would not be name other players.

Jose Canseco said players have been using steroids in his book he wrote. In the book, he stated Sammy Sosa and Rafael Palmeiro used steroids, but both denied it. No one actually took the 5th Amendment but McGwire came very close with his frustrating answers.

A harsher punishment for steroid use is in order. Players should be cut off without pay, and suspend them a season or longer to make them learn.

Young kids look up to the major league players as role models. Players may not want to, but they will always be role models and need to straighten up for everyone watching.

All-conference basketballer Lee J. Kirkpatrick to play football

By Sharmine Manandhar/
Staff Reporter

Students have seen Lee J Kirkpatrick make terrific shots in basketball games. Now let's get ready for some football action from Kirkpatrick. Yes, it's true. Kirkpatrick, the former Southwestern basketball player will be playing football in his final year at college.

Believe it or not, this 6' 5" would-be football player has never played football in his life. But he is all set to try something new in life.

"I have never played football in my life, even though I always wanted to. I have just played some flag football and a

lot of video game football," Kirkpatrick said. Kirkpatrick decided to play football to pay for his last year in college.

"I am a baby out of a womb. I know nothing about football," Kirkpatrick said. That is why he spent his spring break learning a few basics about football from his roommate, a football player at Southwestern.

Kirkpatrick admitted that his friends expressed their doubts when he told them about his football plans. But later they were the ones who supported him to go for it. Coach Ryan Held equally supported

him for his decision.

Kirkpatrick will be playing the tight-end position on offense.

"I am sure Lee J will be a fine football player," said Ashika Shrestha, a freshman majoring in medical technology. Kirkpatrick, a senior majoring in social work hopes to move to Colorado or Florida and work with YMCA or start his own business after graduation.

"It's either the mountains or the beach for me," Kirkpatrick said.

Kirkpatrick still has two semesters left of school and was granted eligibility to play this fall.

John Repp finishes 4th, Bulldogs finish second at Kickingbird Classic with a 874

Southwestern Oklahoma State had one of its best golf outings of the season finishing in a three-way tie for second at the University of Central Oklahoma/ Kickingbird Classic. The two-day, 54-hole tournament concluded Tuesday at Kickingbird Golf and Country Club in Edmond.

SWOSU put together rounds of 283, 293 and 298 to finish with +34 over par score of 874. UCO, the nation's third-ranked NCAA Division II men's golf team, won the tournament by 15 strokes with a 54-hole score of 859. Cameron and St. Mary's each shared second-place with SWOSU with a team score of 874. A total of 13 teams competed in the

tournament.

John Repp was the top SWOSU golfer putting together rounds of 71, 69 and 73 to finish with a three-over par score of 213. Repp, a senior from Ft. Cobb, finished in a tie for third place. UCO's Todd Dayton won medalist honors with a two-under score of 208. A total of 70 golfers were entered in the tournament.

Other SWOSU finishers were Brian Hostetler in sixth at 216 (+6), Greg Koch in 21st at 221 (+11), Tyson Mooring in 38 th at 229 (+19) and Cooper Barrick in 41 st at 230 (+20).

The SWOSU men will next play Monday, April 4 at the West Texas A&M Invitational in Canyon, Texas.

Final Team Standings:

1 Central Oklahoma
Rd. 1 283
Rd. 2 283
Rd. 3 293
Total 859
2 SWOSU
283
293
298
874
3 Cameron
288
289
297
874
4 St. Mary's
288
298
288
874
5 St. Edward's
288

Individual Standings:

1 Todd Dayton	Central Oklahoma
67	
69	
72	
208	
2 Travis Lovins	Cameron
71	
69	
71	
211	
3 Sam Proal	Central Oklahoma
71	
70	
72	
213	
4 John Repp	SWOSU
71	
69	
73	
213	

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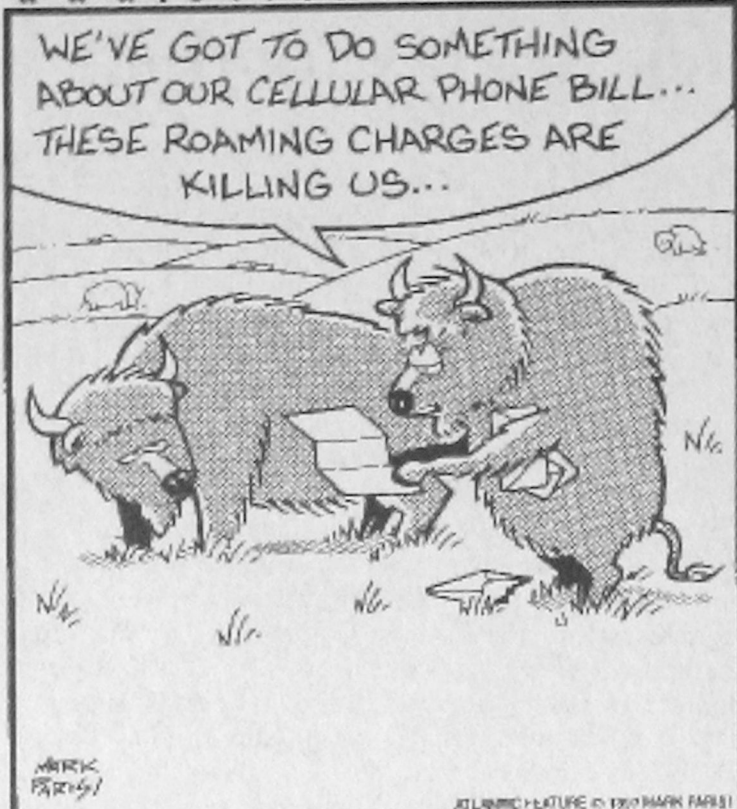
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